

Appl. No. : 09/575,429
Filed : May 22, 2000

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-16 as shown below.

Please add Claims 17-23 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen, when fluid specimen is contained therein, said cup comprising:

a container used to collect a the fluid specimen, a container lid, said container having a top opening;

a cassette slidably received within a receptacle hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing at least one chemical test strips means configured to provide an indication of a characteristic of said the specimen regarding a drugs of abuse, when said at least one test strip is exposed to the drug of abuse; and

a lid configured to cover said top opening with the cassette inside, wherein said receptacle extends vertically below said lid.

2. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse ~~A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said a bottom floor of said cup container is sloping from the backside downwardly at 1-3° towards the front side, allowing said specimen to be channeled towards testing device said cassette.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse ~~A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said cup container has a retracted recessed flat face designed configured to move the a viewing area closer to said cassette.~~

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4. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said cassette is ~~integrated~~ inserted into said receptacle of ~~with~~ said container through inserting said cassette into custom channels on said container to anchor said cassette's outside edges and orient said cassette for proper testing and viewing.

5. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein the at least one test strip ~~said cassette~~ comprises test strips used to test for THC, COC, MAP, PCP and MOR.

6. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said cassette comprises a plurality of isolated test channels which house said at least one test strip for testing the drugs of abuse.

7. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 6, wherein each of said isolated test channels has a clear, sealed window hermetically sealed to a face of said cassette for viewing the results of ~~the~~ a test.

8. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 7, wherein said clear, sealed window is formed by a transport fluid-resistant sheet laying on top of said at least one test strips to prevent fluid specimen from accidentally spilling and ~~contaminate~~ ~~contaminating the~~ said at least one strips.

9. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse ~~A specimen cup as in Claim 1, the specimen cup further comprising a hinged flap adjacent to a rim of said container, the hinged portion of the flap being affixed to an interior surface of said container in a position which partially blocks the opening of said container, said flap being configured to reduce, to which once fluid specimen entered into said cup, said flap will prevent the splashing of said fluid specimen from splashing during collection, testing, transport and storage.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen

regarding drugs of abuse. ~~A specimen cup as in Claim 1, the specimen cup~~ further comprising a floating member configured to substantially fill a volume directly above said fluid specimen once said fluid specimen is entered into said cup, said floating member being configured to reduce the splashing of ~~prevent~~ said fluid specimen ~~from splashing~~ during collection, testing, transport and storage.

11. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said cup is constructed ~~constructed~~ of a material selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of thermoplastics, specialty plastics, thermosets, and engineering plastics.

12. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 11 ~~10~~, wherein said thermoplastics is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of polyamideimide (PAI), polyethersulfone (PES), polyarylsulfone (PAS), polyetherimide (PEI), polyarylate (PAR), polysulfone (PSO), polyamide (PA), polycarbonate (PC), styrene-maleic anhydride (SMA), chlorinated PVC (CPVC), poly(methylmethacrylate) (PMMA), styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN), polystyrene (PS), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (PS), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS), poly(ethyleneterephthalate) (PET), poly(vinylchloride) (PVC), polyetherketone (PEK), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), poly(phenylene sulfide) (PPS), liquid crystal polymer (CCP), nylon-6,6, nylon-6, nylon-6,12 nylon-11, nylon 12, acetal resin, low and high density propylene (PP), high density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), polystyrene, ethylene-vinyl acetate, poly-vinyl-acetate and polyacrylic.

13. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 11 ~~10~~, wherein said cup is constructed from specialty plastics ~~is selected from the group~~ comprising consisting of fluorocarbon polymers and infusible film products, and Upilex polyimide film.

14. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 11 ~~10~~, wherein said cup is constructed from thermosets ~~is selected from the group~~ comprising consisting of phenolics, epoxies, urea-formaldehyde and silicones.

15. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 11 ~~10~~, wherein said cup is constructed from engineering plastics ~~is selected from the group~~ comprising consisting of acetyl resins, polyamide, polyetherimides, polyesters, liquid crystal polymers, polycarbonate resins, poly(phenylene ether) alloys, polysulfone resins and polyamideimide resins.

16. (Currently Amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette hermetically sealed and custom integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse~~A specimen cup as in Claim 1, the specimen cup further comprising a dam structure attached to said cassette in order to form a recessed pooling area in said cassette wherein said cassette is configured to draw said testing fluid specimen from said cassette's end portion through said pooling area, the said pooling area being configured to expose said cassette's interior test strips to the fluid specimen, while recessed~~ recessing the exposed portion of said test strips sufficiently to minimize potential contamination of the test strips.

17. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein a bottom floor of said container is sloping from the backside downwardly at 1-3° towards the front side, said floor being configured to allowing said specimen to be channeled towards said cassette.

18. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said container has a recessed flat face configured to move a viewing area closer to said cassette.

19. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, further comprising a hinged flap adjacent to a rim of said container, the hinged portion of the flap being affixed to an interior surface of said container in a position which partially blocks the opening of said container, said flap being configured to reduce, the splashing of said fluid specimen during collection, testing, transport and storage.

20. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, further comprising a floating member configured to substantially fill a volume directly above said fluid specimen once said fluid specimen is entered into said cup, said floating member being configured to reduce the splashing of said fluid specimen during collection, testing, transport and storage.

21. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, the specimen cup further comprising a dam structure attached to said cassette in order to form a recessed pooling area in said cassette wherein said cassette is configured to draw said testing fluid specimen from said cassette's end portion through said pooling area, said pooling area being configured to expose said at least one test strip to the fluid specimen, while recessing the exposed portion of said at least one test strip sufficiently to minimize potential contamination of said at least one test strip.

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22. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said lid is threaded to mesh with threads on a rim of said container, the meshing of said lid threads with the rim threads providing a substantially sealed closure.

23. (New) A specimen cup as in Claim 1, wherein said lid is independent of said container.